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BUCKINGHAM HOLDS RECORD FOR ADJUSTING COMPENSATION

Annual Report of Commissioners Shows That Fairfield County Court Has Had Occasion for Only One Hearing.

Recommendations of Changes in Law Are Based Upon Experiences of Commissioners Since Recent Institution of Court.

Hartford, Conn., Dec. 30.—The compensation commissioners of Connecticut who took office on October 1, 1912, under the compensation law which was effective in its entirety on January 1 last, today submitted their first report to Gov. Baldwin. The period of the report being for ten months up to November 1.

The report shows that Compensation Commissioner Edward T. Buckingham, the former mayor of Bridgeport, who serves in the Fourth district, Fairfield county, has been most successful in his management of the affairs of the court.

There has been only one hearing in his court. Hundred of cases have been brought to his attention, but he has succeeded in mediating between the employer and employee so well that with but a single exception he has effected an amicable adjustment of the differences.

This has been a saving of much money to the parties to compensation court adjustment, for the expenses of witnesses, such as physicians and the like, fall upon the party summoning the witnesses.

The scope of the law is indicated by the fact that 13,959 accidents were reported to the commissioners in the ten months period. The distribution was as follows: First district, 4,591; second, 2,356; third, 5,920; fourth, 3,239; fifth, 8,664.

Of the accidents a very large number did not incapacitate the employee from labor at all, or if at all, for periods less than two weeks.

The number of agreements entered into voluntarily and approved to the total of 2,444, distributed as follows: First district, 1,647; second, 533; third, 593; fourth, 692; fifth, 560.

The number of agreements entered where parties appeared personally or by counsel with witnesses and where a formal finding and award was made, totaled 108, distributed as follows: First district, 39; second, 16; third, 32; fourth, 1; fifth, 18.

In completing the report all the decisions made up to the time the manuscript was sent to the printers had been included. These total 13 in addition to the number already given, 6 in the first district, none in the second, 6 in the third, 5 in the fourth and 2 in the fifth. Referring to the organization the commissioners point out that it felt embarrassed in relation to personal interviews, public addresses and publication of articles in the press. The situation was in part solved by issuance of four general bulletins during the year, which were generally distributed among employers and employees, and thirty blanks to meet the requirements of the law and to facilitate its operation.

The commissioners say their work was increased by reason of uncertainty felt as to whether the law applied to employers of less than five persons. This uncertainty led at the outset to a request made upon the attorney general for an interpretation, and his opinion was contained in Bulletin No. 1. The commissioners sought to have wide publicity, both by interviews, addresses and newspaper articles, of the fact that it was later for all persons desiring to be effected by the law (Part B) to so state in writing. This resulted in hundreds of requests for the part of persons employing less than five and added to the work in detail.

The report briefly refers to the work of organization of the commission. Then it takes up the operation of the law. The commissioners reported throws comparatively little light on conditions in any one district for this reason, say the commissioners, "that section 20 provides that employers who have accepted Part B shall keep a record of such injuries sustained by their employees in the course of their occupation as result in incapacity for one day or more. Some employers have reported a large number of injuries. For example, one employer in the fifth district reported probably 100 casualties of which only one was of sufficient magnitude to result in a claim for compensation. Another employer reported 49 and only five were serious enough to claim compensation. Another in the third district reported 207 injuries and only four were entitled to compensation."

The report says that commissioners adopted different methods in actual disposition of claims, the variation being due to the character of the injury.

BOYS IN DANGER AS FIRE SWEEPS JUNIOR REPUBLIC

Thirty Lads and Matron Saved In Blaze at Litchfield Today.

Litchfield, Conn., Dec. 30.—The main building of the George Junior Republic, on the road two miles north of Litchfield Center, was burned early today. The building with its contents were totally burned and the latter included the library and winter stores. The loss is placed at between \$3,000 and \$10,000, covered by insurance.

Thirty boys and the matron, Mrs. Gifford, slept in the room on the second floor, the boys being in dormitories. The smoke compelled Mrs. Gifford and several boys to make their escape by ladders from the windows.

Although the fire occurred at 5 a. m. and the boys had to be aroused, the best of order prevailed. Many of the boys, left in either their nightclothes or garments hastily gathered up.

The cause of the fire is unknown. It started in the dining room where there was a large fire place and the presumption is that sparks from the fire there smoldered and finally ignited woodwork, the blaze gradually spreading until it involved the first floor.

Mrs. Gifford was awakened by smoke. There were 20 rooms in the building, several of these being used as dormitories.

Another theory is that the fire may have been caused by a defective flue as one of the boys first out of the burning structure said that when he was awakened the whole ceiling of the room in which he was, was a mass of flames.

Many of the boys not waiting for ladders, jumped to the ground. All of them lost about all of their belongings and are destitute of clothing and bedding. They will be housed temporarily in other buildings. The trustees will meet this afternoon to consider necessary steps to be taken.

The building was the home of Miss Alice Buel, who had been saved by the fire to the George Junior Republic.

Every board and department of the city government is asking for more money for transfers and maintenance from \$1,000 to \$200,000. The tax assessors are no exception to this rule and they are asking for \$1,000 more than they received last year. The requisition of the board filed with the city auditor calls for \$12,776.

The items are as follows: Salaries of assessors, \$400; \$77; \$200; salary of clerk, \$1,500; salary of clerk for transfers and maintenance, \$1,000; salary of stenographer and typist, \$600; clerk hire, compiling, \$125; clerk hire on abstract, \$135; clerk hire in canvassing personal property, \$600; printing, \$225; printing and binding tax, \$465; printing grants book, \$25; printing grant book, \$20; printing and binding abstract, \$100; general repairs, \$25; printing, \$100; janitor, \$100; office supplies and incidentals, \$100; stable and garage expense, \$150.

This year the city council committee of the common council Day committee for \$1,275 which is \$125 more than the committee had last year. More money is needed for flowers for the year's graves and for music.

Last year the city council received \$16,500, this year the officers of the same institution ask for \$17,080. The items in the requisition are: Salaries, judge, \$2,500; deputy judge, \$1,000; prosecuting attorney, \$2,000; assistant prosecuting attorney, \$1,000; clerk, \$1,600; assistant clerk, \$800; wages of janitor, \$180; estimated fees of probation officers, \$2,000; estimated fees of liquor inspectors, \$700; estimated fees of witnesses, \$3,000; estimated fees for investigation by police, \$400; estimated amount of fees for doctors, sheriffs and interpreters, \$1,200; estimated amount for printing and repairs, \$400.

A incinerating plant for garbage disposal to be owned by the city of Bridgeport and to cost \$200,000 is asked for in the requisition which the board of health will present to the board of apportionment. A new slaughter house to cost \$20,000 will also be asked for. In total the board asks for \$313,639.

For garbage disposal with the salary of the weigher \$5,000 is asked, which is \$4,600 more than the board allowed last year. The health board members say, however, that the increase in population means that there will be more garbage to collect and consequently more money must be appropriated for the purpose.

Whatever the outcome of the aspirations of the scores of would-be policemen, who are awaiting the action of the police commissioners tomorrow evening, one thing is pretty well settled—that there will be no police lieutenant chosen at the meeting tomorrow.

The commissioners have not yet come into accord on the state of patronage to be elected. Every effort is to be made to settle things so that the elections can be made tomorrow night.

In well informed circles late this afternoon it was reported that the matter of advancing a sergeant to lieutenant had been given up, by agreement among the commissioners.

BRIDGEPORT DUM DUMS WON'T FIT GUNS OF ALLIES

State Department Completes Investigation of Von Bernstorff's Complaint.

GERMAN SOLDIERY NOT CRUEL TO BELGIANS

U. M. C. Officials Reiterate That Bullets In Question Are Used For Hunting.

Washington, Dec. 30.—State department officials have practically completed an investigation of charges made by the German ambassador, Count Bernstorff, that dum-dum bullets were being supplied from the United States to the armies of allies.

An answer Count Von Bernstorff will be made within the next few days. The department's investigators have reported that the samples of dum-dum bullets submitted by the German ambassador as having been made in the United States would not fit any rifle being used by the allies.

State department officials have also been informed by an American diplomat just back from Europe that he found no ground for charges that Belgians have been mutilated by German soldiers.

Though Mr. Hoagland could not be reached personally today at the local works officials who were informed of the text of the dispatch signified that they were of the belief all along that the U. M. C. Co. would not be involved in the charges made by the ambassador, for their investigation of the destinations of shipments they had made had assured them that none of the so-called dum-dum bullets had been shipped to Europe for use by the allies. The building was the home of Miss Alice Buel, who had been saved by the fire to the George Junior Republic.

MAN WHO BLAMED FLIES FOR TYPHOID LOSES DAMAGE SUIT

The claim that millions of flies from a nearby dump made excursions to his residence and gave him typhoid fever was not sustained today when Francis G. Gill's suit against the city of Stamford was decided by Judge Butner of the superior court. The court found in favor of the city of Stamford to recover costs.

In his memorandum the court says "We can only surmise that his typhoid fever was caused by the fly nuisance. There is not sufficient evidence to show that the enjoyment of his place of abode was impaired in any degree by the fault of the defendant."

Gill, who is a salesman for the Siberian Fur Co. of New York, lived in an expensive house in Shippagan, Stamford, in 1913. Nearby street now houses a gigantic tent factory and the wharf of big sail-sewing machinery blends with the creaking of rope as the great strands are specially strained and tested against the strain it will be put to when in the "big top." One of these monster tents for use during the coming season is already well under construction with many unique improvements included, and the building will be followed by another of similar dimensions and pattern for the Ringling shows. A large tent lasts but one season under the usage it is put by the Greatest Show on Earth.

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BOY DYING AFTER SLED HITS AUTO

Torrington, Dec. 30.—Alva McClelland, aged 8, son of Mr. and Mrs. John C. McClelland was fatally injured, it is believed, in a collision with an automobile while coasting this morning. The automobile was owned and driven by Thomas P. Temple, of Waterbury, who reported the accident to the medical examiner and the police.

Temple was entering Torrington from Waterbury and on South Main street the McClelland boy suddenly glided down a side street and struck a rear wheel of the automobile. This wheel was carrying a sled which lacerated the boy's head. The victim's skull was fractured and he was picked up unconscious.

James Wood, employed at the plant of the Slinger Mfg. Co., for a number of years and well known about the city on account of his activity in the affairs of the Caledonian Football club, died early today as he slept at the home of his sister, Mrs. M. A. Barker of 168 Brooks street. His body was discovered by Mrs. Barker when he failed to appear for breakfast. Death had preceded discovery for several hours and was due to natural causes, according to the finding of Dr. S. M. Garlick, medical examiner.

The deceased had attended the presentation of "The Messiah" at the armory last night, went directly home and retired about midnight. He did not complain of feeling ill at that time.

He was born in England 40 years ago, but had lived in Bridgeport for practically all of the time after reaching his majority. In addition to the Caledonian club he was affiliated with Bridgeport lodge, Loyal Order of Moose.

At the time it was reported that he had completed plans to be married next month.

GREATEST TENT MANUFACTORY IN BRIDGEPORT

Barnum & Bailey Circus Takes Over Big Canvas Enterprise and Starts Work.

WORK IS PROVIDED FOR FIFTY EXPERTS

Important Addition to Bridgeport's Many Industries Comes to Winter Quarters

The Barnum & Bailey circus is to expand its business, enlarging the manufacturing field on a large scale, utilizing the enormous buildings and resources at the winter quarters in Bridgeport for this purpose. Already successful in the rebuilding and sale of palaces and coaches to southern railroads, they have recently purchased the largest tent factory in the world and have moved it intact from Cincinnati, Ohio, to this city, where the business of making their own tents as well as those of other big shows has begun with fifty hands employed.

It is believed that under the active direction of Samuel McCracken, general manager of the big circus, these two lines of industry will soon be followed by the inauguration of others which will mean the addition of more buildings as well as the employment of a much larger force than the big one now maintained while the circus winters here.

Through the unexpected purchase of a number of New Haven railroad cars several years ago, which were brought to this city for repairs in the car-repair and paint shops maintained by the Barnum & Bailey circus, and the later sale of these southern railroads at handsome profit, new avenues of revenue were opened to the circus owners.

Recently the W. H. Laeshbaugh tent and sail-making plant at Covington, Ky., and Cincinnati, Ohio, the oldest and best equipped in the country, found itself in circumstances which might have crippled the Barnum & Bailey tent supply.

Realizing that the acquisition of this plant would not only insure both the Barnum and Ringling circuses their annual supply of canvas, but would open new fields for industry and profit, W. H. Laeshbaugh, who, for 35 years has stood at the head of his profession, was induced to become a part of the big organization with the result that the loft of the big brick building on the west side of the Norman street now houses a gigantic tent factory and the wharf of big sail-sewing machinery blends with the creaking of rope as the great strands are specially strained and tested against the strain it will be put to when in the "big top." One of these monster tents for use during the coming season is already well under construction with many unique improvements included, and the building will be followed by another of similar dimensions and pattern for the Ringling shows. A large tent lasts but one season under the usage it is put by the Greatest Show on Earth.

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LODGE 16 PERJURY CHARGES AGAINST DELIA, BANKRUPT

Sixteen charges of perjury are alleged against Joseph D'Elia, formerly a bicycle merchant of Pembroke St. In objections filed in the bankruptcy court today when D'Elia sought discharge from bankruptcy.

Attorney John P. Gray representing creditors of D'Elia at Providence, New York and Bridgeport, filed these objections.

It is claimed that he committed perjury in his preliminary examination, in denying that he had ever made a statement to a mercantile company, and in denying that he had owned a store conducted by his brother Julius, and stating that he expected to receive \$1,000 from his wife's people, also in stating that he had agreed to buy goods from one dealer only.

Other counts are along similar lines. D'Elia is represented by Attorney Fred D. Fallon.

RECEIVER SUES FOR POSSESSION OF RIG

To recover a horse, wagon and other equipment, Receiver Roman H. E. Jasinski of the Reliable Laundry has brought suit against Joseph P. Steigler of this city for \$500. In papers filed today in the common pleas court the receiver says he was appointed by the superior court last May.

He declares Steigler unlawfully took a horse, wagon, two sets of harness and three blankets owned by the company and has refused to deliver them to the receiver. Steigler denies the charge.

THE WEATHER.

Fair and colder tonight and Thursday; strong west winds.

ENGLAND PLANS TO END DIFFERENCES WITH U. S. ON DELAYING OF SHIPS

SAYS UNITED STATES COULD COMPEL PEACE ABROAD IN 90 DAYS

Washington, Dec. 30.—How the United States could end the European war in 90 days by cutting off the export of war supplies was described by Representative Vollmer, of Iowa, to the House foreign affairs committee.

With Representative Bartholdt he endorsed a joint resolution to empower the President, in his discretion, to prohibit such exports.

American embargoes from 1794 down to the Mexican arms embargo of 1912 were cited by Vollmer in a legal argument to support the constitutional right of Congress to act.

"President Wilson," he said, "suspended the embargo of export of arms and munitions to Mexico in the interests of true neutrality as against neutrality on paper."

"I maintain that the pending resolution is in line with the historic reputation of this nation as the greatest advocate of peace. It is not in line with that reputation to supply the instruments of murder to European nations. Are we to take the position of the arch-hypocrite among the nations? Are we to go upon our knees and pray for peace and at the same time supply the death-dealing instruments to Europe? Are we to plead with God for peace with the blood money in our pockets?"

"We are now in the position, of sending dollars for Belgium and dum-dum bullets for Germany."

Representative Vollmer emphatically declared: "Germany cannot be beaten in this war. Her people are united and determined to fight to the last drop of blood. If this war continues it will go on and on until all the world is dragged down to bankruptcy."

Representative Bartholdt told the committee that by "dollar neutrality" the United States was alienating the friendship of Germany and Austria.

German victories were announced by the Berlin war office whose statement was in direct contrast with recent despatches from Petrograd. It is asserted that Russian cavalry which invaded East Prussia has been driven back to a point four miles from the border. In Poland, according to the Berlin statement, the German advance continues and it is said that Skiernewice and Lowicz were captured nearly a week ago.

Referring to the situation in the west, the German war office confirmed the French statement of yesterday that the allies had captured the Belgian town of St. Georges.

The French official communication asserts that further progress has been made in Belgium, including the capture of an important German position.

Russian assertions that an important victory has been won over the Austrian forces in Galicia were confirmed today in an official statement from Vienna in which the admission is made that the Austrians were compelled to retreat along the entire eastern front. It is said that the attention to the north in Poland, is not affected by this reversal, although Petrograd asserts the movement of the main German army has been checked with losses described as enormous.

Austria's defeat at the hands of Serbia apparently has been followed by renewed activity on the part of Montenegro whose troops have carried the fighting to Austrian soil in Herzegovina, and are now undertaking a vigorous offensive movement. The Vienna war office states that the Montenegrin attacks thus far have repulsed easily.

Russia's claim to a victory over the Turks in the Caucasus is disputed by reports which reached Berlin from Constantinople saying that the Turks have won "another success" and are pursuing the retreating Russians. It is also said at Constantinople that another British attempt to land troops in Arabia failed.

Must Stop Re-Shipment

Much depends upon the effective effort on the part of Denmark, Holland, Norway and Sweden to prevent the re-shipment to Germany and Austria-Hungary of cargoes from the United States. Until water-tight regulations are put into force in these countries, little hope is held out by the American government for the relaxation in the matter of searching American cargoes.

One prominent British official pointed out that Italy has effective checks on contraband shipments to Austria-Hungary and Germany with the result that Great Britain is not stopping ships destined for Italy unless there shall be special reason to suspect fraudulent consignments.

A guarantee by the United States as to honesty of bills of lading and the enactment of strict regulations for the seizure and punishment of transshipment of goods to the belligerent government could find satisfactory means of making such a guarantee, is admitted by this prominent official as a possible step which might cause a relaxation in the search of American cargoes.

British officials call attention to the lenient attitude adopted by the British government toward American cotton which, they say, might easily be regarded as contraband, because of its extensive use in gun cotton, but which has not been put on the contraband list. They say this leniency toward cotton, however, has been abused by shippers who used it to conceal copper and other contraband.

RUSSIANS HOLDING GERMAN IN CHECK

London, Dec. 30.—The soldiers of Emperor Nicholas still hold the main German armies in check and continue to press their advantage, according to despatches reaching London. At the same time they are harassing the Austrians who have been flung back over the Carpathian Mountains.

In the western area of the war the allies continue to press their advantage, but the offensive, started about the middle of December, has noticeably slackened, a fact which Berlin, accepting the order issued by General Joffre, the French commander-in-chief, on December 17, as being a declaration means the failure of the attempted allied advance.

Even some of the British newspapers call attention to the marked decrease in the vigor of the French, British and Belgian thrusts at the German line but they add that the reason for this quite soon will be disclosed.

The Bzura river, to the west of Warsaw, has now become the "Yar of the east; on its banks the Germans have been sacrificing thousands of men.

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Foreign Minister Confers With Executive Heads of British Government On Diplomatic Note From President Wilson—Believe Amicable Arrangement Can Be Made.

London, Dec. 30.—The note sent by the United States to Great Britain protesting against the action of British warships in detaining and seizing cargoes on American vessels is now under consideration at the British foreign office where no intimation is given as to when a reply to the note may be expected.

During the afternoon Sir Edward Grey, foreign minister, held a conference at the foreign office with David Lloyd George, the chancellor of the exchequer; Reginald McKenna, secretary of home affairs; Walter Runciman, president of the board of trade, and Sir Francis Hopwood, civil lord of the admiralty, on the subject of the American note.

A frank discussion on the note by the British officials shows that they regard it as friendly and they do not believe the differences between America and Great Britain are such that they cannot be reconciled satisfactorily.

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CONCERT, POSTPONED AT CHRISTMAS TREE LAST NIGHT, GIVEN TONIGHT

Owing to the inclemency of the weather the concert planned before the Municipal Christmas tree last night, was deferred. This will be given tonight at 7 o'clock when the Premier band, under the leadership of Louis Charrell, will render a pleasing program. The tree will be illuminated as usual.